

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13-15 and 18 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-23 are now presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Kim in view of Young

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-15, 17-21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,334,217 to Kim ("Kim") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0194968 to Young ("Young"). The independent claims have been amended to clarify the distinctions between the prior art.

Turning to e.g. Claim 1, it recites, first, "a graphics controller to generate commands in a second generalized protocol' Note that the second protocol is different from the tuner's first specific protocol. In the references, the Examiner has referred to infrared commands as different from commands that are internal to the system. In none of the references is there any suggestion that a graphics controller generate commands, only that it receive infrared commands.

The claim continues with "a microcontroller to convert the commands from the second protocol to the first protocol." So even if the graphics controller generation is read on receiving IR commands and then converting them to some internal format, there is then nothing in the references that performs this further conversion from the protocol of the graphics controller to the protocol of the tuner.

The claim cannot be read on receiving IR commands and then transmitting them to the microcontroller because the systems in the references do not operate this way.

Instead the IR commands are first translated to baseband electrical commands at the IR receiver. There is nothing in the references that suggest that there is any other translation or conversion after this is performed, yet the claims have commands coming from a first controller in one protocol and getting changed to another protocol at the second controller.

In addition, the claim recites, “a first protocol specific to the tuner” and “a second generalized protocol.” There is nothing in any of the references to suggest that one protocol is specific to a tuner and that the other is generalized. The references simply have an IR protocol and a baseband protocol. There is nothing in the references to suggest that either are specific to any particular device or that they are generalized to many devices.

Referring to Claim 2, it explains the receipt and conversion of command responses. There is nothing in either reference to suggest that responses be converted. In the case of IR commands, the references make no suggestion that responses be sent back to the user as IR signals.

Referring to Claim 3, it refers to “a second tuner having... a third protocol specific to the second tuner.” So the microcontroller is converting commands into two different protocols depending upon the tuner to which the command is directed. There is nothing in either reference to suggest that there be two tuners in one apparatus that use two different protocols and that a microcontroller convert generalized commands for both.

The claims discussed above have been chosen as examples. The points presented above apply equally to other currently rejected claims and on these grounds, *inter alia*, it is respectfully submitted that all claims, as amended, are allowable over the cited references.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Kim and Young in view of Godwin

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 11, 16 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kim and Young in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,772,434 to Godwin ("Godwin"). This rejection relies on the combination of Kim and Young and is traversed on the same grounds as presented above.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

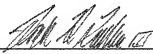
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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